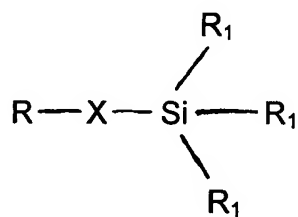


IN THE CLAIMS:

Please enter the following amendments wherein language to be added is indicated by underline and language to be deleted is indicated by ~~strikethrough~~.

Claim 1. (Withdrawn)

Claim 2. (Currently amended) A polymeric composition produced through the polymerization of one or more aromatic-based silyl monomers having a structure represented by



wherein R is a polymerizable group; X is selected from the group consisting of C₁₋₁₀ alkyl, C₁₋₁₀ alkyloxy, C₆₋₃₆ aryl and C₆₋₃₆ aryloxy; and the R₁ groups may be the same or different selected from the group consisting of C₁₋₁₀ alkyl, C₁₋₂₀ cycloalkyl, C₆₋₃₆ aryl, C₆₋₃₆ aryl ether, C₆₋₃₆ heterocycle, C₆₋₃₆ heterocycle with one or more substituents, C₁₋₁₀ alkyl ether and C₆₋₃₆ aryloxy, with at least one of said monomers having at least one non-phenyl R₁ group~~monomers of claim 1.~~

Claim 3. (Currently amended) A The polymeric composition of claim 2
wherein said polymeric composition is produced through the
copolymerization of one or more of said aromatic-based silyl monomers
~~of claim 1~~ with one or more aromatic or non-aromatic non-siloxy-based
monomers.

Claim 4. (Currently amended) A The polymeric composition of claim 2
wherein said polymeric composition is produced through the copolymerization of
one or more of said aromatic-based silyl monomers ~~of claim 1~~ with one or more
hydrophilic monomers.

Claim 5. (Currently amended) A The polymeric composition of claim 2
wherein said polymeric composition is produced through the copolymerization of
one or more of said aromatic-based silyl monomers ~~of claim 1~~ with one or more
hydrophobic monomers.

Claim 6. (Withdrawn)

Claim 7. (Currently amended)

~~A method of producing the~~ The

polymeric compositions of claim 3 wherein said one or more aromatic or non-aromatic non-siloxy-based monomers is selected from the group consisting of 2-phenyloxyethyl methacrylate, 3,3-diphenylpropyl methacrylate, N,N-dimethylacrylamide, methyl methacrylate, 2-(1-naphthylethyl) methacrylate, glycol methacrylate, 3-phenylpropyl acrylate and 2-(2-naphthylethyl) methacrylate.

Claim 8. (Currently amended)

~~A method of producing the~~ The

polymeric compositions of claim 4 wherein said one or more hydrophilic monomers is selected from the group consisting of N,N-dimethylacrylamide and methyl methacrylate.

Claim 9. (Currently amended)

~~A method of producing the~~ The

polymeric compositions of claim 5 wherein said one or more hydrophobic monomers is selected from the group consisting of 2-ethylhexyl methacrylate, 3-methacryloyloxypropyldiphenylmethylsilane and 2-phenyloxyethyl methacrylate.

Claims 10-14 (Withdrawn)

Claim 15. (Currently amended) A The polymeric composition of claim 2 wherein said polymeric composition is produced through the polymerization of one or more of said aromatic-based silyl monomers ~~of claim 1~~ with one or more strengthening agents.

Claim 16. (Currently amended) A The polymeric composition of claim 2 wherein said polymeric composition is produced through the copolymerization of one or more of said aromatic-based silyl monomers ~~of claim 1~~ with one or more aromatic or non-aromatic non-siloxy-based monomers and one or more strengthening agents.

Claim 17. (Currently amended) A The polymeric composition of claim 2 wherein said polymeric composition is produced through the copolymerization of one or more of said aromatic-based silyl monomers ~~of claim 1~~ with one or more hydrophilic monomers and one or more strengthening agents.

Claim 18. (Currently amended) A The polymeric composition of claim 2 wherein said polymeric composition is produced through the copolymerization of one or more of said aromatic-based silyl monomers ~~of claim 4~~ with one or more hydrophobic monomers and one or more strengthening agents.

Claim 19. (Original) The polymeric composition of claim 15, 16, 17 or 18 wherein said one or more strengthening agents are selected from the group consisting of cycloalkyl acrylates and methacrylates.

Claim 20. (Currently amended) A The polymeric composition of claim 2 wherein said polymeric composition is produced through the polymerization of one or more of said aromatic-based silyl monomers ~~of claim 4~~ with one or more crosslinking agents.

Claim 21. (Currently amended) A The polymeric composition of claim 2 wherein said polymeric composition is produced through the copolymerization of one or more of said aromatic-based silyl monomers ~~of claim 4~~ with one or more aromatic or non-aromatic non-siloxy-based monomers and one or more crosslinking agents.

Claim 22. (Currently amended) A The polymeric composition of claim 2 wherein said polymeric composition is produced through the copolymerization of one or more of said aromatic-based silyl monomers ~~of claim 1~~ with one or more hydrophilic monomers and one or more crosslinking agents.

Claim 23. (Currently amended) A The polymeric composition of claim 2 wherein said polymeric composition is produced through the copolymerization of one or more of said aromatic-based silyl monomers ~~of claim 1~~ with one or more hydrophobic monomers and one or more crosslinking agents.

Claim 24. (Original) The polymeric composition of claim 20, 21, 22 or 23 wherein said one or more crosslinking agents are selected from the group consisting of diacrylates and dimethacrylates of triethylene glycol, butylene glycol, neopentyl glycol, hexane-1,6-diol, thio-diethylene glycol and ethylene glycol, trimethylolpropane triacrylate, N,N'-dihydroxyethylene bisacrylamide, diallyl phthalate, triallyl cyanurate, divinylbenzene; ethylene glycol divinyl ether, N,N-methylene-bis-(meth)acrylamide, sulfonated divinylbenzene and divinylsulfone.